Executive Office of Public Safety Newsletter, January 2006



The Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

EOPS Announcements

Excellence Awards

The Executive Office of Public Safety is inaugurating the Excellence in Public Safety Awards program to recognize public safety and criminal justice initiatives in the Commonwealth that demonstrate strong public benefit. Any municipal government agency, state government agency, or non-profit organization in Massachusetts is eligible to receive recognition through this program. No grant funds will be awarded. This is solely a recognition program.

EOPS is interested in recognizing initiatives from as many components as possible of the complex criminal justice enterprise. Criminal justice and public safety system elements that we seek to recognize include but are not limited to the following: Offender Management, Court-based Programs, Prosecution, Technology Applications for Improved Criminal Justice, Applications of Research and Data Analysis, Innovative Law Enforcement Approaches, Victim-Centered Programs and Approaches, Crime and Violence Prevention Programs, and Public Safety Programs Addressing Serious Violent Crime, Management Reforms, Preparedness, or Regionalism. Award application and instructions will be available after January 23, 2006 at www.mass.gov/eops. Applications must be received no later than February 24, 2006. Awards are anticipated to be announced in the spring of 2006.

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety's Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety's Homeland Security Division invites your municipality to take part in the Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program. The HDER program is a partnership between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness, the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Navy and the Health Physics Society and is designed to place surplus federal radiation detection equipment in the hands of emergency responder agencies and to provide training on the equipment to designated personnel at no cost. Through the HDER program, responder agencies across the state now have access to a substantial inventory of radiological detection instrumentation and other rehabilitated equipment.

For more information contact Chris Beaurpere at (617) 725-3327.

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The Executive Office of Public Safety is pleased to announce that the new EOPS contact person for the state-funded Community Policing Grant Program is Tracy Brown, Law Enforcement Grants Manager. If your department has any questions regarding their Community Policing award, please contact Ms. Brown at 617-725-3353 or tracy.brown@state.ma.us.

EOPS Funding Opportunities

<u>Disproportionate Minority Contact Assessment Study</u> Extended Application Deadline: February 10, 2006

In order to insure that all potential applicants have sufficient time to prepare their applications, and in light of the Application for Grant Funds being posted during the holiday season, EOPS is currently extending the application period. In addition, the Question and Answer period has also been reopened and will be available until January 27, 2006.

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety is making available up to \$100,000 for a study aimed at assessing the causes of Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) in Massachusetts. DMC refers to the overrepresentation minority youth in the juvenile justice system. The purpose of the assessment study is to uncover the causes of DMC in the Commonwealth in order to develop strategies to address them.

For more information: www.mass.gov/eopsfunding

click on Justice and Education

Conferences and Trainings

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- Investing in Quality: The Philosophy and Practice of Assessment in Criminal Justice (ACJS)

In the News

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Other Funding Opportunities

Crime and Justice Research

Application Deadline: January 24, 2006

"The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking proposals for crime and justice research on topics relevant to State and/or local criminal and juvenile justice policy and practice. Through this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for social and behavioral research and evaluation addressing community crime prevention, policing, juvenile and criminal justice systems improvement, corrections, alcohol-and drug-related crime, criminal behavior, and other topics that have the potential to advance practice and policy in criminal and juvenile justice operations nationally."

For more Information: http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/sl000731.pdf

Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative

Application Deadline: January 26, 2006

"The Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI) strengthens urban communities characterized by large numbers of returning, nonviolent prisoners. With the support of several federal agencies, PRI is designed to reduce recidivism by helping returning inmates find work and access other critical services in their communities. The Department of Justice awards grants to state agencies to provide pre-release assessment, programming and services, transition planning, and post-release supervision and coordination of services for prisoners returning to communities."

For more Information: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/06PRIsol.pdf

SAMSHA Knowledge Dissemination Conference Grants

Application Deadline: January 31, 2006

"The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), and Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) are accepting applications for SAMHSA Conference Grants. Grants awards will be made for up to \$50,000 which will be used to disseminate knowledge about practices within the mental health services and substance abuse prevention and treatment fields and to integrate that knowledge into real-world practice. Domestic public and private nonprofit entities, State and local governments; federally recognized tribes; State recognized tribes, urban Indian organizations; public or private universities and colleges; professional associations, voluntary organizations, self-help groups, consumer and provider services-oriented constituency groups; community- and faith-based organizations; and tribal organizations are eligible to apply."

For more Information: http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/2006/RFA/PA_06_001_Conference.aspx

Mental Health Courts Program

Application Deadline: February 2, 2006

"The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is seeking proposals to fund one additional mental health court demonstration project that reflects innovative and collaborative efforts for system wide court improvements for offenders with mental disabilities or illnesses. The Mental Health Courts Program helps improve the social functioning of qualified offenders with mental illness, mental retardation, or co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorders through treatment, supervision, stable employment, housing, and support services."

For more Information: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/06MHCDemosol.pdf

Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program

Application Deadline: February 2, 2006

"The Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program is a school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curriculum administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) in cooperation with the Department of Justice's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The program's primary objective is prevention and is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. G.R.E.A.T. funds may be used to support one or more of the following G.R.E.A.T. curricula, components, and activities: 13-week middle school curriculum (a core, mandatory component); 6-week elementary (4th and 5th grades) curriculum; 6-lesson G.R.E.A.T. families component; or G.R.E.A.T. summer component. Applications may be submitted for any amount based on the level of the project, for a maximum award of \$250,000." For more Information: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/06GREATsol.pdf

Missing and Exploited Children Training and Technical Assistance Program Application Deadline: February 7, 2006

"The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) seeks to provide funding for the continuation of the Missing and Exploited Children Training and Technical Assistance Program, which has been in operation since 1995. The purpose of this solicitation and resulting cooperative agreement is to establish a mechanism to provide the technical support necessary to manage and deliver training and technical assistance on a national basis. This includes training and technical assistance program design, development, and implementation and fiscal support necessary to sustain those services required for the continuation of a coordinated and comprehensive training and technical assistance program under the Child Protection Division (CPD) at OJJDP."

For more Information: http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/mectta2006.pdf

NIJ Research and Evaluation in Community Corrections: A Multi-jurisdictional Study of Reduced Caseload and Related Case Supervision Strategies in Managing Medium- and High-Risk Offenders

Application Deadline: February 9, 2006

"The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking proposals that focus primarily on the effect of reduced caseloads in the management of medium- to high-risk offenders in a general probation population. Currently, nearly twice as many people are on probation in the United States as there are in jails and prisons combined. Despite the widespread use of probation, many basic questions remain about its effectiveness in reducing recidivism and enhancing community safety. With increases in the number of probationers and in the severity of probation offenses—often with no corresponding increase in resources—two of the most basic questions to be addressed concern the effects of caseload management and supervision strategies on probation outcome."

For more Information: http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/sl000737.pdf

Public Safety Interventions

Application Deadline: February 15, 2006

"The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking proposals to conduct process and outcome evaluations to improve public safety interventions at the local level. Effective law enforcement and crime prevention programs are critical to ensuring the safety of communities throughout the country. With the limited resources of many police departments, local agencies, and other groups, it is especially important to determine the effectiveness of public safety interventions." For more Information: http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000738.pdf

Outcome Evaluations of Violence Prevention Programs

Application Deadline: February 24, 2006

"The National Institute of Justice is seeking proposals to conduct systematic and comprehensive evaluations of promising programs with the objective of expanding the list of effective interventions to prevent violence to and by youth. In selecting proposals for funding under this solicitation, priority will be given to evaluations of promising programs and strategies that represent comprehensive or integrated models of intervention, especially those that target very young children." For more information: http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000732.pdf

Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program

Application Deadline: February 28, 2006

"The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program is authorized under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 2002. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), one of five program bureaus in the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), has been delegated the authority to administer the JABG program. The purpose of the JABG program is to provide funds to state and local governments to develop programs to promote greater accountability in the juvenile justice system."

For more information: http://www.ojidp.ncjrs.org/Funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=42

Research and Publications

Enhancing Police Integrity

The National Institute of Justice

This recently released report measured the integrity of police officers, including their willingness to report the misconduct of fellow officers, through a national survey of police officers. Characteristics of agency culture that encourage officers to resist or tolerate certain types of misconduct are identified. An assessment tool that police chiefs can use to measure integrity within their departments is also included.

Access full text at: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/pubs-sum/209269.htm

<u>Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants: Assessing Initial Implementation</u> The National Institute of Justice

According to this recently released National Institute of Justice (NIJ) evaluation, the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) program helped States and localities continue or expand policies that hold young offenders more responsible for their actions and impose increasingly serious sanctions for each delinquent or criminal act. This report evaluated how the grants were spent and grantees conformed to the policy objectives rather than gauge the programs impact on juvenile crime.

Access full text at: http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/210116.pdf

Co-Offending and Patterns of Juvenile Crime

The National Institute of Justice

This report discusses tendencies of juvenile co-offending and was based on results from a National Institute of Justice sponsored study of delinquents in Philadelphia. How co-offending relates to age of offender, recidivism, and violence is discussed and implications for policy and practice are included. Access full text at: http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/210360.pdf

Census of Tribal Justice Agencies in Indian Country, 2002 Bureau of Justice Statistics

This recently released Bureau of Justice Statistics report presents detailed information gathered on tribal law enforcement agencies, tribal courts and services, and criminal record systems from the 2002 Census of Tribal Justice Agencies in American Indian Jurisdictions. Data on the number of law enforcement agencies and officers, characteristics of tribal courts and their caseloads, types of available criminal sanctions, and collection and sharing of data for criminal justice statistics is included. This is the first comprehensive effort to identify the range of justice agencies operating in tribal jurisdictions, their services, and the types of information systems they maintain. Access full text at: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/ctjaic02.pdf

<u>Sexual Assault on Campus: What Colleges and Universities Are Doing About It</u> The National Institute of Justice

Due to the fact that college women are at a high risk for sexual assault, Congress has enacted several laws requiring schools to disclose their security procedures and report crime data. The National Institute of Justice began studying school compliance with the Federal law in 1999 and this resulting research report provides a benchmark of sexual assault policy on the nation's campuses. Strengths and weaknesses of response policies and practices, formal and informal adjudication processes, and individual and institutional barriers to reporting are identified. Access full text at: http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/205521.pdf

Conferences and Trainings

Sustainability Technical Assistance Training

February 16, 2006 in Worcester, MA Registration Deadline: February 1, 2006

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in conjunction with the Executive Office of Public Safety is offering Technical Assistance to all juvenile justice and/or delinquency prevention based programs throughout the Commonwealth. This training will focus on how to measure and evaluate your program, OJJDP performance measurement requirements, promoting your program to potential funding sources, and locating valuable funding resources.

Please RSVP to Mary-Jo Cerasuolo (617) 725-3377.

For further information: www.mass.gov/eopsfunding click on Justice and Education

Danger Assessment DVD Debut

January 19, 2006 in Boston, MA

The debut of the Danger Assessment DVD, produced by Emerge with funding from the National Institute of Justice, will take place from 5:30-7:00 on January 19 at the law offices of Mintz Levin. Sheriff Andrea Cabral, who narrates the DVD, will receive one of the two Law Enforcement Leadership in Domestic Violence Awards. The other awardee will be Lt. Jon Tiplady. Senator Jarrett Barrios will be the Speaker. Brief clips from the DVD will be shown along with introductions of the all star cast. Ticket proceeds will be used to distribute the DVD, free of charge, to police, prosecutors, victim advocates, probation officers and other domestic violence responders in Massachusetts. Registration information is attached to this email.

20th Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment January 23-27, 2006 in San Diego, CA

This conference will bring together professionals in the field of child/family abuse and domestic violence. Best practices and skill building workshops will be offered to those who are seeking the most up-to-date and advanced training. Workshops have been designed for attendees in the following fields: medicine, mental health, interviewing, child welfare, advocacy, law, law enforcement, education, family support, public policy and research.

For further information: http://www.chadwickcenter.org/SDConf_GeneralInfo.htm

<u>Introduction to Crime Analysis Using ArcGIS 8</u> January 24-28, 2005 in Denver, CO

This 5-day introductory course, presented by the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center, introduces the concepts of crime mapping and demonstrates the relationship between crime mapping and crime analysis. The following topics will be discussed: basemaps, geocoding, police boundaries, redistricting, temporal analysis, data acquisition and management, pin (point symbol) mapping, pattern analysis, hot spot analysis, choropleth mapping, buffer analysis and presentation layout.

 $\underline{For\ further\ information:\ http://www.ncjrs.org/eventscalendar/CalendarResultsDetail.}\\ \underline{asp?strConfID=7271}$

The Sixth Annual Campbell Collaboration Colloquium: Producing Systematic Reviews of Evidence

February 22–24, 2006 in Los Angeles, CA

Sponsored in part by the National Institute of Justice, this 3-day event presents an opportunity for policymakers, researchers, and consumers to collaborate on the production and dissemination of evidence based research. This training will discuss how systematic reviews of evidence in crime and justice, education, and social welfare can affect interventions and be better used.

For further information: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/events/welcome.html

American Correctional Association 2006 Winter Conference

February 28- March 1, 2006

Join thousands of corrections professionals in Nashville, Tennessee for the American Correctional Association's 2006 Winter Conference. Session topics include: innovative approaches to sex offender supervision, teaching ethics to inmates, geographic information systems (GIS), applications for corrections, contracting for performance based measures for cost efficiency, implementing an Electronic Medical Records (EMR) system, consular notification and access for jails and prisons, self management and recovery training (SMART) using cognitive behavior therapy, improving your professionalism through certification, understanding suicide prevention in correctional settings, and Methamphetamine use and abuse in corrections.

For further information: http://www.aca.org

Investing in Quality: The Philosophy and Practice of Assessment in Criminal Justice

February 28 - March 4, 2006 in Baltimore, MD

Pre-Registration Deadline: February 3, 2006

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Conference sessions will cover topics such as policing, drugs and crime, technology and crime, offender behavior, crime victims, ethics, juvenile justice, terrorism and transnational crime, challenges in the criminal justice system and theoretical issues. For further information: http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_668_2915.cfm

In The News

Summit targets gun crime and intimidation

Boston Globe, December 2, 2005

Boston's top law enforcement officials vowed to take tougher measures to stem a rise in homicides, shootings, and other violent crime at a recent emergency summit meeting. The mayor said he is not allocating any more money for the efforts or pledging to hire more police officers, indicating that the city cannot afford to do so.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2005/12/02/summit targets gun crimes intimidation/

Fed Gun Prosecutions, a focus in Boston anticrime plan

Boston Globe. December 7, 2005

The Boston Globe reports that the U.S. Attorney Michael J. Sullivan in Boston will increase federal prosecutions of suspects involved in gun and gang violence. He also indicated that law enforcement has not done well enough reaching potential offenders before they commit crimes. Police and community leaders say that the increased gun violence that is plaguing Boston is caused, in part, by a number of gangs.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2005/12/07/talking_tough_in_crime_fight/

Boston antiviolence coalition "fragmented" as crime rises

Christian Science Monitor, December 13, 2005

The Christian Science Monitor reports that in Boston shootings are up 33 percent from a year ago and in the 18-to-21 age bracket, firearm-related arrests are up 38 percent. The murder toll has set a 10-year-high and community leaders say increasing numbers of teens without job opportunities are turning to illegal firearms.

Access full text at: http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/1212/p03s02-ussc.html

\$11M grant takes aim at Hub gang violence

Boston Herald, December 16, 2005

Massachusetts State Legislature approved \$11 million as part of a comprehensive anti-gang initiative filed by state Senator Jarrett T. Barrios (D-Cambridge) and Representative Stephen Canessa (D-New Bedford). The funds are part of a larger \$53 million supplemental spending bill the Legislature enacted. The grants will support both intervention and prevention programs as well as reintegration strategies for ex-offenders.

Access full text at: http://www.bostonherald.com/

Lax Rural Gun Laws An "Urban Myth"

Boston Globe, December 19, 2005

According to the Boston Globe, the U.S. Attorney in New Hampshire called the claim that lax gun control laws in northern New England are partly responsible for the city's increase in gun crimes an "urban myth". U.S. Attorney Thomas Colantuono indicated that data collected by the federal "Project Safe Neighborhoods" show that most guns used in Massachusetts crime come from within Massachusetts. According to this same data, fewer than 10 percent of guns used in Massachusetts crimes come from New Hampshire.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2005/12/18/nh prosecutor protests boston charges of lax gun control/

MA House OK's witness protections

Boston Globe, January 11, 2006

The Massachusetts House of Representatives recently passed a bill to create a statewide witness protection program and strengthen gun laws in attempts to control the violence that is plaguing the streets of Boston and other cities. The legislation would provide \$750,000 a year to help protect witnesses from intimidation as they testify in front of grand juries or at criminal trials. The passage of the bill by the House virtually guarantees that the bill will become law in the coming weeks. Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/01/11/mass-house-oks-witness-protections/

Contact Information

We welcome and encourage your comments. Please email us at: EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us

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For additional information on EOPS' grant programs or agencies please visit: www.mass.gov/eops